

wherein said resistance is folded on itself and the flat conductor is in the shape of a coil.

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-14 and 18-32 are presently active in this case. The present amendment amends Claims 1 and 18 and adds new Claims 31 and 32. Claims 15-17 are canceled by way of the present amendment. The above amendment shows the amended claims in clean form, the attachment shows a marked-up copy for the Examiner's convenience.

In the outstanding Office Action Claims 1-3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Roberts (GB 2032460A). Claims 4-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Roberts in view of Sugawara (U.S. 4,553,125). Claim 7 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Roberts in view of Sugawara as applied to Claim 6 above, and further in view of Drekmeier (U.S. 5,581,227). Claims 8-13 and 18-30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Roberts and Sugawara in view of Drekmeier as applied to Claim 7 above, and further in view of Laisi (U.S. 3,645,580).

In response to the Restriction Requirement being made final, Claims 15-17, directed to the non-elected invention, are canceled. Applicants reserve the right to present claims directed to the non-elected inventions in a divisional application, which shall be subject to the prohibition of the third sentence of 35 U.S.C. § 121 against the use of "a patent issuing on an

application with respect to which a requirement for restriction under this section has been made... as a reference... against a divisional application.”²

In order to clarify Applicant’s invention and to vary the scope of protection recited in the claims, new Claims 31 and 32 are added. New Claims 31 and 32 find support in the disclosure as originally filed. Specifically, new Claim 31 is a combination of claim 1 and 21 and Claim 32 is a combination of claim 18 and 21. New claims 31 and 32 do not have specific temperature limitation regarding resisting electrical arcing. New claims 31 and 32 are not believed to raise a question of new matter.

In response to the rejection of Claims 1-3 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections as discussed next.

Claims 1 and 18 have been amended to read “a mass of the flat conductor can resist electrical arcing up to 300°C”. The Roberts patent discloses an operating temperature of the disclosed conductor from 20 to 50°C.³ Thus, Roberts does not disclose that “a mass of the flat conductor can resist electrical arcing up to 300°C”. In view of the above, the cited prior art fails to teach or suggest every feature recited in Applicants’ claims, as amended. Claims 1-14 and 18-30 are thereby believed to be patentably distinguishable over the cited prior art.

Now turning to the rejections of Claims 4-13 and 18-30 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), those rejections are also traversed. In light of the discussion above, these rejections are rendered moot. Therefore, even if the combination of applied references is assumed to be proper against the claims as amended, the combination fails to teach every element of the

²See 35 U.S.C. § 121. See also MPEP § 804.01.

³See Roberts page 2, line 24.

claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicants submit that Claims 1-14 and 18-30 patentably distinguish over the prior art.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in condition for a formal allowance. A Notice of Allowance for Claims 1-14 and 18-32 is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, he or she is encouraged to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

Finally, the attention of the Patent Office is directed to the change of address of Applicants' representative, effective January 6, 2003:

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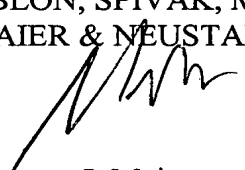
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Please direct all future communications to this new address.

Respectfully submitted,

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